

IN THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently amended) A separator for a battery, ~~which is~~ coated with a gel polymer over 40-60% of a total separator area based on a surface of the separator to be coated with the gel polymer,

wherein the separator is partially coated with ~~a~~the gel polymer in which coated or non-coated areas form a pattern, the gel polymer coat has a thickness of from 1 to 2 micrometers, the gel polymer is coated on the separator by gravure coating, and

the gel polymer is selected from the group consisting of polyvinylidene fluoride (PVDF); polyethylene glycol diacrylate; polyalkylene glycol diacrylates; polyalkylene glycol dimethacrylates; ether polymers; carbonate polymers; acrylonitrile polymers; copolymers and crosslinked polymers consisting of at least two of them; and fluoropolymers.

2. to 4 (Canceled)

5. (Currently amended) An electrode assembly for a rechargeable lithium battery, which comprises a positive electrode, a negative electrode, and a separator for a battery, wherein the separator is coated with a gel polymer over 40-60% of a total separator area based on a surface of the separator to be coated with the gel polymer,

wherein the separator is partially coated with ~~a~~the gel polymer in which coated or non-coated areas form a pattern, the gel polymer coat has a thickness of from 1 to 2 micrometers, the gel polymer is coated on the separator by gravure coating, and

the gel polymer is selected from the group consisting of polyvinylidene fluoride (PVDF); polyethylene glycol diacrylate; polyalkylene glycol diacrylates; polyalkylene glycol dimethacrylates; ether polymers; carbonate polymers; acrylonitrile polymers; copolymers and crosslinked polymers consisting of at least two of them; and fluoropolymers.

6. (Previously presented) A rechargeable lithium battery comprising an electrode assembly as defined in claim 5, a positive terminal, a negative terminal and an aluminum-laminated film,

wherein the separator is partially coated with a gel polymer in which coated or non-coated areas form a pattern.

7. to 12. (Canceled)